

THE SAN ANGELO PRESS.

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SAN ANGELO, TOM GREEN COUNTY, TEXAS, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 1903.

Entered in the San Angelo Post Office as Second-class mail matter.

Announcement.

For the Next Sixty days I will sell my entire stock of

**Hardware, Implements,
Buggies, Wacks, Etc.,
At Cost For Cash,**

Or will lump same, to anyone wishing to engage in this business. New safe and roller top desk at a bargain; good warehouse 30x60 for sale; also my stand for rent, as I hold lease on same for the coming year.

Reason for closing out, I have a more advantageous proposition, and realizing that the hardware business in San Angelo is more than fully represented.

Thanking my patrons for past favors I wish you all a prosperous New Year.

E. L. McALPINE.

ALLEN C. THOMAS A. B. HAMM GEO. L. DEUPREE

**THOMAS, HAMM & DEUPREE,
Live Stock Commission Merchants.**

EXCHANGE BUILDING,
FORT WORTH STOCK YARDS

Consign Us Your Stock—They Will Receive Our Personal Attention.

Good Fills, Quick Sales, Prompt Returns

Salesmen: Dallas Salesman and Manager
ALLEN C. THOMAS, ALLEN SEARCY,
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FELIX MANN, Solicitor. San Angelo, Texas.

J. A. COPE.

J. E. HEFLIN.

COPE & HEFLIN

Land and Live Stock Commission

If you want to buy or sell a ranch or stock of any kind, we will make it to your interest to consult with us. Write, wire or phone.

SONORA, TEXAS.

Pasturage Wanted

For 20,000 to 25,000 Head of

SHEEP!

CATTLEMEN: Here is an opportunity to cash your weeds at a big price this winter and spring. Anyone who can take in one or more flocks, please communicate with...

Geo. Richardson,

Wool Commission Merchant,

SAN ANGELO, TEXAS.

END OF ORIENT ROAD.

Where Stilwell's Railroad Touches the Pacific.

Harry C. Orr, general passenger agent of the Kansas City, Mexico & Orient Railroad, has returned from a six weeks' inspection trip over the route of the line in Old Mexico. He traveled by rail, steamboat and wagon and is now thoroughly familiar with the Pacific coast end of the Orient enterprise. Regarding his trip, Mr. Orr said this morning:

"The State of Sinaloa in Old Mexico is a wonder. Topolobampo, called by people throughout that country Topo for short (Port Stilwell) is more wonderful. For grandeur, picturesqueness and utility combined, nature certainly reached a climax at that place. To give one an idea of the bay and harbor we will suppose that one is standing near the water, facing due West toward the Pacific ocean. The harbor is about a half of a mile wide, being 90 feet deep within 30 feet of the stone shore, with an average depth of over 100 feet to the opposite side, from which a small mountain covered with green shrubbery rises gradually 600 feet high.

"Starting from a point a half mile from the left of this position and to the rear there is a bay, covering fifty square miles, which, of course, is deep sea water and rises and falls regularly with the ocean tides causing a continual slight current and live in front of the port.

About the same distance to the right the bay recedes inland for perhaps one mile, making a semicircle, coming back to a point opposite to a mountain referred to first, making a channel about three fourths of a mile wide in a northwesterly direction for about half a mile, then you go out to open sea, or Gulf of California, and just at the left of the point there is a natural beach. It should be borne in mind that all of this water is deep water, inside of the bar and is entirely free from tidal waves and sea storms, being mountain locked within five minutes' walk from the center of the townsite one can obtain a commanding view of the entire coast and surrounding country in every direction, including a clear view of the gulf as far as the eye can reach, the gulf at this point being 120 miles wide.

Truly Port Stilwell can be called the sportsman's paradise, to say nothing of the sailing and yachting that can be done in the bay. On this coast are produced as fine oysters as exist anywhere—lobsters, shrimp, Spanish mackerel and red snappers that weigh from 15 to 30 pounds. There is also a game fish caught here called the cabrilla, that weighs from 60 to more than 200 pounds, from which boneless steaks are cut which are especially palatable. Turtles are caught here which weigh from 100 to 500 pounds and ducks are seen in countless numbers all the time. Inland quail, pheasants and wild deer abound.

"The Orient road is running a line of steamers on this coast and in addition to handling company business is doing a regular freight and passenger business. I went into port on the Steamer Luella, that carried a number of box cars, flat cars, trucks, steel, iron and general merchandise. We sailed into port without stopping one minute to a point within ten feet of the shore and the cars were unloaded off of this boat directly to the tracks of the Orient road, as were also previously two locomotives and a large number of cars. While there the steamer Meteor, from Seattle, Washington, drawing 19 1/2 feet of water, with 1,700,000 feet of timber and lumber, and the Eureka from the same point, with more than a million feet of timber, sailed in without stopping, unloading their cargoes on the Orient tracks, all of the material being for the Orient road. Mr. Botts, material agent for the company at this point, informed me that six months ago there was an average of only one steamer per month landing at Topo and that for the last three months there was an average of more than

twenty each month, beside a number of sailing vessels. The Mexican Government has just finished a new custom house at this point and Port Stilwell is now an open port.

"In addition to the main line of the Orient road, which runs direct to the water's edge at this point, the company has been compelled to put in three additional tracks, making four in all, from which supplies and material are unloaded from the vessels. The company is putting in ten miles of side track a few miles inland for the purpose of receiving the rails from Europe and other material and are constantly being besieged to haul merchandise over that part of the road that is now finished. The country from Port Stilwell east to Fuerte, seventy miles back, is known far and wide as one of the richest valleys in the world, sugar cane being the principal product at present. I saw three immense sugar factories and refineries between Topolobampo and Fuerte. Oranges and bananas grow everywhere and lemons are so abundant that they are given and thrown away for the season that there is no market for them till the next transportation. It is a well known fact that strawberries ripen every day in the year in Mexico, but they reach their highest state of perfection in the Fuerte district during the months of December January and February. They can easily raise two crops yearly of wheat or corn on the same piece of ground. Five to six crops of alfalfa can be grown each year on the same ground. The first of this month (December) we had at this place green corn on the cob and watermelons, which I understood was the third or fourth crop.

"Forty miles northeast of Fuerte and just at the approach of the Sierra Madre mountains we touched Aguas Calientes de Baga the place of the famous hot springs; normal temperature of the water is 120 degrees and the volume of the water at this point is furnishing power sufficient to run a mill and for general purposes. Fuerte is the headquarters for that part of the country, not only for the agricultural region reaching to the gulf on the west, but for the mineral country north and east. It is conceded by all who are well informed that the State of Sinaloa for minerals and agricultural combined offers greater possibilities than any other State in the Republic of Mexico. As for its superior, I do not mean that this climate we can challenge the whole world country has a monopoly on climate, but I do say that I believe it impossible for any country on the face of the earth to surpass it during the fall, winter and spring months. After a certain period you are told to a certainty what the weather will be not only tomorrow, but next day and next week.

"As soon as the rails arrive from Europe, the track will be laid to the mountains, as the grading is practically all finished, ties on the ground and all material for the bridges and piling is in the material yards ready to be forwarded as soon as the track is advanced. The telegraph line is finished nearly to Fuerte from Port Stilwell. It will be finished in advance of the track and will be used by the company as a telephone line until the road is opened. Leaving Port Stilwell on the steamer, we crossed the gulf in one night to La Paz, which is the capital of Lower California, now a Territory under the Republic of Mexico. This is a real tropical center. The United States Government has a large coaling station at this point and our navy department frequently uses it for target practice. We found in this place a number of residents who are several times millionaires. It is claimed that this is the greatest market in the world for pearls. They are obtained by deep diving to the extent of 150 feet. Two syndicates, one French and the other English, have concessions from the Mexican government for the control of the market. The French syndicate keeps a steamer in the bay all the time to guard her hidden treasure.

(Continued on 8th page.)

A. J. BAKER & CO.

BANKERS.

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TEXAS

A. J. BAKER, the President of this bank, has been a resident citizen of San Angelo for 18 years. He was Commissioner of the General Land Office of Texas for four years, is well known as a safe and conservative banker.

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San Angelo, Texas.

Capital paid up \$100,000.00
Surplus and undivided profits \$118,339.40

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